

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12, and 14-17 are pending in the application. In this amendment, claim 1 is amended, claims 8 and 13 are cancelled, and new claims 15-17 are added.

Claims 1, 7, 11, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Gandelot. Claims 2, 8, and 10 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Gandelot. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the substance of claim 8. Gandelot does not teach or suggest three or four contact surfaces as recited in claim 1. The Office Action contends that this is obvious. No motivation for making this change is cited. Moreover, Gandelot's switch provides an ON or OFF connection between two contacts 28. Nothing in Gandelot suggests that further connections should be made. To provide additional contacts would require splitting one of the contacts 28 and then providing another cable connected to the new contact. This is not a mere design choice, but rather creates additional functionality not comprehended by Gandelot.

New claims 15-17 recite limitations not taught by Gandelot. Gandelot does not teach two positions of the switching element establishing two connections as recited in claim 15. Gandelot does not teach a pin shaped switching element as recited in claim 16. Gandelot does not teach a rigid switching element as recited in claim 17.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone

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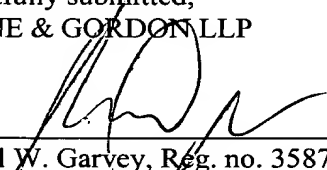
interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our

Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33966.

Respectfully submitted,
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By:


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